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June 1, 1900

1378

May 12, steamship *Mark Lane*, Marseilles to New York via Seville, general cargo, crew 21, was inspected.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. ANDERSON,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

GERMANY.

Report from Hamburg.

HAMBURG, GERMANY, *May 14, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report for the week ended May 14, 1900:

The steamship *Phœnicia* of the Hamburg-American Line, sailed Sunday, May 6, carrying 2,023 steerage passengers. The express steamer *Auguste Victoria*, of the same line, embarked 671 steerage passengers May 9, sailing the following day, and the steamship *Albano*, of the Union Line, sailed May 9, carrying 785 steerage passengers for the Hamburg-American Line. Bills of health were issued to 8 vessels, of which 5 carried cargo.

I have lately made some inquiries as to the manner in which ballast is supplied to vessels requiring it at this port and I learn that all ballast discharged here is used over again in departing vessels, and as more vessels leave in ballast than arrive without cargo no ballast is ever thrown away here. The extra amount that is required for departing vessels consists of sand from the bottom of the river obtained from dredges working in the lower Elbe and appears to be clean dry sand in all cases. Formerly when engaged in quarantine work at the Gulf Quarantine Station I suspected that this kind of trading in ballast and reuse of the same occurred at a good many ports but never had the fact so fully confirmed before. It is evident that this ballast must become well ventilated in the course of several times handling and the ventilation together with the length of time which lapses in the voyage of a sailing vessel is of value in removing the danger if any infection exists in earth and stone ballast.

Respectfully,

A. C. SMITH,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

GUATEMALA.

Report from Livingston—Fruit port.

LIVINGSTON, GUATEMALA, *May 15, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit my report for the week ended to-day: Steamship *Managua* arrived May 9; departed May 10. Proper certificate inclosed. Steamship *Breakwater* arrived and departed to-day (15th); also certificate inclosed. Health of this place continues excellent; 1 death for the week—still-born child. Weather cool. No evidence of contagious or infectious diseases.

Respectfully,

S. W. BACKUS,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.